

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 16 as follows:

Claims 1 to 10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) The hair cutting machine as recited in claim 16, wherein the cutting plane (22) encloses a positive inclination angle ( $\alpha$ ) of 0 to 45° with the longitudinal axis (24) of the handle (12).

12. (previously presented) The hair cutting machine as recited in claim 16, wherein the cutting plane (22) encloses a positive inclination angle ( $\alpha$ ) of 5 to 35° with the longitudinal axis (24) of the handle (12).

13. (previously presented) The hair cutting machine as recited in claim 16, wherein the cutting plane (22) encloses a positive inclination angle ( $\alpha$ ) of approximately 30° with the longitudinal axis (24) of the handle (12).

14. (previously presented) The hair cutting machine as recited in claim 16, wherein the stationary blade (18) and the oscillating blade (20) are embodied in the form of an interchangeable cutter head (16).

15. (previously presented) The hair cutting machine as recited in claim 16, wherein part of the oscillating blade (20) is provided with a flat covering (56).

16. (currently amended) A haircutting machine, comprising:

a handle (12) with a front handle end;

an electric drive unit (54) contained in the handle (12); and

a cutter head (16) arranged at said front handle end;

wherein said cutter head (16) comprises a stationary blade (18) and an oscillating blade (20) disposed above the stationary blade (19) in an operating position of the handle (12) so that the stationary blade (18) and the oscillating blade (20) define a cutting plane (22) that extends there between and the cutting plane (22) is inclined downward in relation to a longitudinal axis (24) of the handle (12); [[and]]

wherein the cutting plane (22) encloses an adjustable positive inclination angle ( $\alpha$ ) of 0 to 90° to the longitudinal axis (24) of the handle and the oscillating blade (20) is adjustable in relation to the stationary blade (18) in a longitudinal direction (55) of the cutting plane (22); [[and]]

wherein the stationary blade (18) is arranged between the oscillating blade (20) and the handle (12); and

wherein the electric drive unit (54) contained in the handle (12) is connected to the oscillating blade (20) through an opening (44) provided in the stationary blade (18) in order to drive the oscillating blade ~~and the stationary blade (18) is arranged between the oscillating blade (20) and the handle (12).~~